REPORT OF THE NCAA DIVISION I FOOTBALL CHAMPIONSHIP SUBDIVISION OVERSIGHT COMMITTEE AUGUST 7, 2025, VIDEOCONFERENCE

KEY ITEM.

• NCAA Division I Football Championship Committee update. Mark Wharton, University of Tennessee at Chattanooga, NCAA Division I Football Committee chair, provided an update on recent NCAA Division I Football Championship Committee meetings and the FCSOC took action to approve the following 11 conferences receiving automatic qualification for the 2025 NCAA Division I Football Championship: Atlantic Sun Conference, Big Sky Conference, Coastal Athletic Association, The Ivy League, Missouri Valley Football Conference, Northeast Conference, Ohio Valley Conference, Patriot League, Pioneer Football League, Southern Conference and Southland Conference.

ACTION ITEMS.

• None.

INFORMATIONAL ITEMS.

- 1. NCAA Division I Decision-Making Working Group update. The committee received an update about the NCAA Division I Decision-Making Working Group's final report. The NCAA Division I Council approved the final recommendations from the working group at their August 13, 2025, videoconference.
- 2. NCAA Division I Football Student-Athlete Connection Group update. The committee received an update from the July 13 FSACG videoconference. The FSACG's next videoconference is Sunday, August 10.
- 3. NCAA Division I Football Championship Committee update. The committee received an update on the work of the NCAA Division I Football Championship Committee, including notification of several new committee members, the use of metrics in selections and planning for the upcoming year. Additionally, an update was provided on a recent site visit to Nashville by the committee leadership and championships staff which included plans for programming for the national championship focused on FCS administrators, student-athletes, coaches and fans.
- 4. Football playing rules and officiating update. The committee received an update on several playing rules adjustments for the upcoming season, including injury timeouts, timeouts during extra periods, defensive movement/stemming and the permissive use of coach-to-player helmet communication.
- **5. NCAA legal issues update.** The committee received an update from the NCAA Office of Legal Affairs.
- **6. NCAA Division I governance update.** The committee received an update on upcoming Division I governance meetings.

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- 7. NCAA Division I Football Bowl Subdivision Oversight Committee update. The FCSOC received an update from the August 1 FBSOC videoconference.
- 8. Approve NCAA Division I Football Championship Subdivision Oversight Committee June 2 videoconference report. The committee approved the June 2 FCSOC videoconference report.
- 9. Future meeting dates.

TBD

Committee Chair: Shawn Heilbron, Stony Brook University.
Staff Liaisons: Ty Halpin, NCAA Championships and Alliances.

Kris Richardson, NCAA Academic and Membership Affairs.

NCAA Division I Football Championship Subdivision Oversight Committee August 7, 2025, Videoconference

Attendees:

Jeff Bacon, Atlantic Sun Conference. (alternate)

Sherryta Freeman, Lafayette College; Patriot League. (alternate)

Dena Freeman-Patton, Morgan State University; Mid-Eastern Athletic Conference.

Jean Gee, University of Montana; Big Sky Conference.

Anton Goff, Prairie View A&M; Southwest Athletic Conference.

Shawn Heilbron, Stony Brook University; Coastal Athletic Association.

Thomas Michael, Eastern Illinois University, Ohio Valley Conference. (alternate)

Jeff Roberts, Tennessee Technological University.

Benjamin Shove; Northeast Conference.

Jason Strong, Yale University; The Ivy League.

Greg Walter, Pioneer Football League.

Jamaal Walton, Virginia Military Institute; Southern Conference.

Mark Wharton, University of Tennessee at Chattanooga.

Absentees:

Craig Bohl, American Football Coaches Association.

Invited Guests:

Chris Grant, Southland Conference.

Bob Nielson, American Football Coaches Association.

NCAA Staff Liaisons in Attendance:

Ty Halpin and Kris Richardson.

Other NCAA Staff Members in Attendance:

Geoff Bentzel, DJ Brown, Amanda Conklin, Haydyn Gibson, Alliah Harrison, Chris Howard, Chris Johnson, Greg Johnson, Jordan Lysiak, Jackson Marcotte, Greg Pottorff and Lynda Tealer.